

THE
Englishman's Choice,
AND TRUE
INTEREST:

In a Vigorous Prosecution of the
WAR against *FRANCE*;
And Serving
K. WILLIAM and Q. MARY,
And Acknowledging Their
RIGHT.

Daniel Defoe.

---Ego nec tumultum,
Nec mori per vim metuum, tenente
Caesare Terras. Hor.

L O N D O N,

Printed in the Year 1694.

Englishman's Club

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INTEREST

In the

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WHEN I find those very Men, who in former Reigns, had Sacrificed our Religious and Civil Rights, to the pleasures of their Princes, or Humours of a Governing Party ; now to set up for *Patriots*, in Opposing, or undervaluing, one of the best Princes that ever sat on the *English-Throne* ; Indignation, if not the Love of my Country, were enough to make me Write.

Who, says the Wise *Satyrift*, could endure the *Gracchi* talking against Sedition ? And what true *Englishman* can with Patience hear them Declaim
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against Taxes for carrying on the War against *France*, who were Eager to give what the Court could ask, if a War against Protestants? Who encouraged and connived at the *Late King's* Arbitrary Seizing the Customs; and would rather we should be at the Mercy of *France*, to take all if it pleases, than to part with what bears no Proportion to the vast Benefit which we have, in the security of our Religion, Estates, and Lives, from the Barbarity of an Inhuman Enemy: Who may be very good Companions for those *Well-bred Gentlemen*, which are so fond of them; but would be ill Masters of *England*.

Shall those Men Complain, that *English-Blood*, or Treasure, is spent in so necessary a War; who were Accessary to the solemn Murders in Form of Law of the Best and Noblest of the *English-Nation*? Such as would gladly have dyed in that cause, which our Degenerate *Englishmen* now start from.

Is not danger in the Field, much more desirable than to be at the mark of a Bloody *Ruling Party*, which after their breaking in upon the *City of London's* Liberty of Electing *Sheriffs*, could never miss of having any Man's Life in their Power, nor ever spared where they thought it their Interest to destroy?

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Shall those Men, who by Surrenders of Charters, and other Sordid Compliances, Prostituted the Constitution of the *English Monarchy* to the *Papists* behind the Court-Curtain; deny the Right of their *Present Majesties*, and set themselves against the passing any Law which may oblige Men to acknowledge their Right, out of pretended Zeal for the Constitution?

Shall these Men hope to Convince the World, or do they themselves believe, that the Constitution places all Authority unalterably in the first upon the Royal Line, without any regard to Laws? If it be so, what make they of the Constitution it self? How did any become Lawful Governours? And how came it to pass, that the pretended Martyrs for a false Loyalty, refused to give the *Late King* any assurance, that they would adhere to him? And that, upon our *Present King's* Advancing towards *London*, they invited him to the Administration, before the *Late King* left *England*? Did they make no Scruple to turn him out of the Government; and yet, after others are settled, are they troubled with Qualms of Conscience about the former

Vid. the Paper which he pressed the Bishops to Sign, to assure him and the Nation, that they were not for the Prince of O.

former Right? Is it tollerable for them to say, they would not have had his *Present Majesty King*, when they had assisted so truly to *Unking* the other; and no reall Medium was left, but *King William* or a *Common-wealth*?

But can they pretend Conscience, who have none against Pensions and Places, from a Government, the Right of which they disown? and they above all, who not only declare against the *Right* of those *Princes*, to whom they have Sworn *Alliance*; but, after enriching themselves beyond measure, in Offices of the greatest trust under them; have betrayed their Trust so manifestly, that there is hardly any body, now, who does not see it? The *Notorious* and *Publick* Marks of which *Treachery* may be so Traced Step by Step, and set in so True a Light, that no Body who is not a Party with them, or Judicially Blinded, should question it.

I must needs say, if such there are in the World, who have Read Scripture, and History, to that great Advantage, and so good Purpose, as to apply to *His Majesty*, what is spoken of a forced Submission, saying, *We submitted to him in the day of his Power*; Or what some Historians speak of *H. 4th's* scruple when he had lost his

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his Senses ; about his Supposed Usurpation ; such must be thought , like Men of Honour , to have given fair warning of what were to be expected from them.

But if *His Majesty* has run the hazard of losing the Affections of his best Subjects, by that only fault, of being too good to his Enemies ; who can doubt, but he who has ventured so much, and done such great things, for the good of the Nation, will do this one thing only, yet to be desired, which is, to take from his Enemies the Opportunities of betraying him.

At his first Landing the Serpents lay expiring under his feet, but his Goodness, which like the Sun Communicated warmth to all, gave them new life, and power to Sting. How happy a thing it is, that they have shewn so much of their Natures ! Had they been less open, they might still have upholden that Credit, which the pretence of zeal for *The Church*, and the *Monarchy*, had buoyed up so long ; and we might still be waiting in a lingering War with *France* ; which by Vigorous and Speedy Supplies, honestly Managed, may soon be ended to the Glory both of *Prince* and *People*.

It was observed of the *Old Romans*, that they were the more formidable by their losses to the *Carthaginians*: Which made them more United at home; more Active against the Enemy; and Careful to find out Persons able to serve the *Common-Wealth*: Nor can we expect less, from the Wisdom and Resolution of the *English Nation*: which will own the *King's Title*, and serve him; without respect to a few Men, who have no Power in *England* but from the *King*. They pretend, indeed, to be *Pillars* of the *Church*; while they are undermining its Foundations. And would make the *Church* of an Inconsiderable *Divided Party*; *Dissenters* from the *True Church of England*, the best of the *Nobility*, and *Gentry*, and the whole body of the *People*: Who are entirely for *His Majesty*, as he has Redeem'd them from *Popery*: Against which the *Church of England* has long been a known Bulwark.

They talk high for *Monarchy*; but are not for the *English Monarchy* or *King*: And conjure up the Phantasm of a *Commonwealth*, to divert the apprehensions of the Power of *France*: Nothing but the worst *Ministry* ever made a *Commonwealth* tollerable in *England*: Nor has the Notion of it been raised of late for any better purpose,

pose, than the discrediting them who are not for the Government of the *Late King*, and the *French*.

They who have laboured under that imputation, are the Men who declared for their *Present Majesties*, when the others would have *King William* only a *Regent*; a *Protector* of a *Commonwealth*; or *Officer* under *King James*, during his pleasure; or rather under them, till their turn were serv'd; without any sense of Gratitude for the *Deliverance* wrought for 'em.

While our blind Zelots for *Monarchy* shew, that *King James*, and the *French King*, are the only *Monarchs* they would serve; interest, as well as Inclination, and Duty, carry the *supposed Commonwealths-Men*, to do their utmost for a *Prince*, who Revives to them the Memory of the best of those *Kings*, which have Headed *English Armies* abroad.

When they consider, how much *This King* does in his own Person, beyond any example of this Age, unless of the *Great Gustavus*, who rais'd and supported the *Protestant* interest in *Germany*; how truly he makes good the Character of His *Illustrious Family*, in being the *Deliverer* of oppressed Nations; how well he performs his part, how much soever his Affairs are Clogg'd at Home;

with what Wisdom he Unites, and Keeps together, the *Confederates* against the *Disturber* of the Peace of *Christendom*; what Life he gives to their Troops; and what reall Advantages he causes them to obtain, not suffering *Flanders* to be over-run by so powerful an Army, of Soldiers long Train'd up to War, under the same Discipline, and Animated by the Examples of the Flower of their *Nobility*, and *Gentry*; these suppos'd *Commonwealths Men*, are ready with their Estates and Persons to make War in good earnest, and put the *French* under a necessity of waiting upon our Designs, and not we upon theirs; and of Disgorging their Usurpations upon our *Allies*, if they will preserve what more truly belongs to them.

I well know, some there are, who, as they desire we should fall by our selves, Suggest that we may stand so; that our Navy may Guard our Coasts against Invasions; or our *Militia*, and other Forces at home, may be enough to preserve us if Enemies Land.

These Men cannot but own, that it is much better for *England* to be at Charges in keeping the Enemy at a distance, than to be the Seat of War: And that if any one of those *Allies*, which they undervalue, joyn'd with *France*, it were such an Accession

to its power, as the *French* Party here would be very glad of: nor is there any one of them, which would not in such Case, be as much Magnified by that Party, as now they are Lessened.

But it is evident, that if the *French* should swallow *Flanders* (which they had certainly done before now, if it had not been for the *Confederacy*) *Holland*, which has lately set us so good an Example since the Battle of *Landen*, must necessarily truckle, and their Navy be at the Command of *France*: And how could we expect a Fleet able to secure us against both; when, hitherto, we and *Holland* in Conjunction, have done so little against the Naval Force of *France*? Excepting that Memorable time, when *Admiral Russel* (whose Victory was by some Men held a crime) to his Eternal Honour and Glory, so well maintain'd the Reputation of the *English* Nation.

If *France* had no Enemy but *England*, and were at liberty to employ against it all their Armies in *Flanders*, upon the *Rhine*, in *Piedmont*, in *Catalonia*, and in their Garisons (which together amount to near 400000 Men) while so many here shew themselves ready to declare for them; what could *England* hope for, but to be a Field of Blood? And how could we think that the *French* Swords would be sheathed, while there were one *Protestant* remaining?

Nay, when we consider, how Barbarously they use the People whom they subdue, tho' of their own Religion, without regard to Religious Houses, or Churches, or the Sepulchres of Princes; we may believe, that the *English Papists* should find little better quarter than others. They who have had such fatal proofs of the *English Valour*, and Enmity to them, would take care never more to be in fear of their ancient Enemies: Nor is it to be thought, that any thing less than our total Extirpation would satisfie 'em.

When on the other side we consider, that, notwithstanding all the Treachery of those among us, who by all manner of Tyes have been obliged to do their utmost against *France*; notwithstanding the Union and Fidelity in that *King's* Counsels; and his greatest Efforts, which he design'd should be decisive this last year; yet our King has stopt the progress of his Arms, and has given that Reputation to the *Confederates*, that where he is in Person *France* will never Attack them without double their number; what less can be expected, from the Gratitude and Affection, of a brave People, to so Great a Prince; but that they will put him into a Capacity to meet the *French* with equal numbers; which is to be assuredly the Arbiter of a secure and honorable peace; and that

that the more Glorious, by how many the greater Difficulties the Treachery of his pretended Friends has obliged him to struggle with.

How impatiently did this Nation bear the private Caballing Designs, of former King's, which have kept them in against *France*? What is it that they more coveted for this last Age, than to have a Prince firm, beyond all possibility of doubt, in the Nation's Quarrel; and who would be sure to endeavour to chuse such under him, as would Second, if not promote, the universal bent, and desire, of his people.

King Jugurth, in ancient times, was known with presents to have corrupted the greatest part of the Council of *Rome*, and to have kept them from assisting their *Friend* and *Ally*, when a vigorous War had been for their honour and interest: Nor did that *bribing King* ever think, in good earnest, of submitting himself, till *Metellus*, a Man of known prudence, courage, and integrity, was at the head of affairs.

Nor can we hope to bring *France* to reason by *French Pensioners*, if any such there be: We may learn from their faithful Historian *Philip de Comines*, that *French* money us'd to be very currant in the *English Nation*: It is not for me to say it has had any influence of late: But I may say, there has been such a chain of Treachery, somewhere, that every step looks as if the measures

tures were taken from *France*. Yet all the Corruption to be feared is not only from Money: For ill habits, natures, or principles, do equally corrupt, and turn Men from the service of this Government.

I must needs think it no undue Censure, to say, that no Man, who understands the Constitution of this *Monarchy*, can be against the *present Government* out of *principle*: For whoever questions the right of it, either has not used due means of informing himself, how fully the settlement is warranted by the Constitution; or has that want of Judgment, which makes him a dependant upon the Judgment of others: and the practice of them, who give Rules to the unthinking Vulgar, has been so inconsistent with it self, as well as with their profess'd Principles; that they must be ashamed of pretending to any thing but obstinacy; and deserve the same credit with the *French King*, when, with his Fleet upon our Coasts, he so Graciously declared for the *Church of England*.

As to them who come in to the Government, and yet deny its Right; or place it upon such an uncertain bottom, as is a Virtual denial of it; whether *Conquest*, or such a *Providence* as gives one's Purse to a Robber; it must be said, that we find not this *flying Party* the same Men in one station that they are in another.

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But what ever party they are of, through whose hand the Administration has pass'd; they ought to remember that *Old Saying, The Publick Affairs will not be ill Administred.* In this Case bare indiscretion, or inadvertency, or want of Intelligence, is a crime of an high Nature. And if any Man has arrived to that height, to own himself the occasion of laying aside a *Victorious Admiral*, because he has been against him in the House of Commons; this would be to assume more than Regal Power; and such Insolence, if there were no more it it, would deserve equal punishment with the most *Notorious Treachery.* 3

But if any in the Government have held out a Flag of Truce to its Enemies; If being against the Right of their Majesties, has with them been a Recommendation to Preferment; and zeal for their Right a Cause of Disgrace; what in others might pass only for *Mismanagement*, cannot but be judged *Treachery* in them.

Whatever is given under the Management of Men of an other Allegiance, is but providing Cannon to be turned upon our selves. But when Men are assured that they who hold their *present Majesties*

Majesties to be our *Lawful*, and *Rightful*, King and Queen (which is the True Test of Loyalty) shall be the only Persons entrusted under them with the Administration; Who is he that Wishes well to *England*, that will not Chearfull Contribute to his Power, for the maintaining the Right of a Prince, without whom we cannot hope to be long a People?

They who have asserted his Right from the first Settlement of it, as they have therein Renounced the *Late King*, we may be sure can have no Merit to plead upon another change; Nor will they Act to their own Apparent Ruine, and hold the Bason at the cutting of their own Throats.

Others, tho' they cannot long enjoy their Crimes, may Fancy, that what they have done for a *French Tyrany*, and their fitness to be Instruments of it, may continue to them the advantages they are now possessed of: or, at least, they may be assured of the Ill-natured Satisfaction, of seeing those whom they have long trampled on, destroyed before them,

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And, indeed, were it not for the inhumane pleasure of Malice and Envy, it were impossible that *Protestants*, and they men at ease in their Fortunes, should engage in Plots against a Government, which is the only Security of their Religion and Estates. And the good of *England* is so bound up in the Life of *His Majesty*, that it can hardly be thought that numbers of any Party should engage against him. The Papists themselves owe to him that Protection, and Security, which *King James* could not have given them; besides the restitution of those Fundamental Laws, in the defence of which their Fore-fathers had signatiz'd themselves: when they so truly distinguished between the Church of *Rome*, and the Court of *Rome*; and thought themselves very good *Catholicks*, when they maintain'd their Liberties, by resisting the Usurpations of Popes, and of Princes, as no part of *God's Ordinances*. The High Church, and Passive Obedience Men, were perhaps the most sensible of the mischief of the late Reign; as they found such advances towards turning them out of all Offices in Church and State; and their most celebrated Heads, had, while under that Sense, in their Proposals to *King James*; their refusal to sign an abhorrence of any design against him, their blessing with the Deliverance, if not inviting the Deliverer, and

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joyning to put him into possession of the Power of the Nation; acted so contrary to all their former Proceedings; that one would have thought they had all of a sudden, become *Englishmen*; and would have vindicated the *Reformation* from the Reproach under which it has suffer'd, as if we lost in Civil Rights while we gain'd in Spiritual; and that to be true Christians, we were to lay all our Worldly Goods at the feet of our Princes, that they might distribute them among these *Successors* of the *Apostles*.

The moderate true Church Party, could not but rejoyce to find such a return of their Endeavours, in the Settlement of the Government upon a Bottom, for which they had ventured so far, and so long, to no purpose. But if any of them who have suffered in the Publick Cause, or sympathiz'd with them that did, now fall off from a Settlement, call'd for by the Voice of the People, and the Necessaries of the Publick, what do they but condemn themselves; or those their Friends, who by their laudable Endeavours for the *Bill of Exclusion*, shewed that their Religion was more Sacred to them, than the suppos'd *Divine Right* of Succession vested in a Popish Prince. But if such men desert this Government, the Blood of the Lord *Russel*, Colonel *Sydney*, Sir *Thomas Armstrong*, Alderman *Cornish*,

Coruſh, and many other Sufferers for the Publick, will a great measure lye at their doors, as accessaries *ex post facto* to their Murders, and *partakers* of the Crime: with whatever pomp they *adorn* their *Sepulchres*; what do they but pay honour to the memories of *Jefferies*, and of those willing *Jury-men*, who helpt to dispatch so many Traytors to God and their King?

But certainly it would be very strange if any of them, who have so justly exploded the Doctrine of the Bowstring, should become Profelites to it: and if any one of their Spiritual Guides should now be for *King James*, or *King Lewis*; I should think him worse than *Father Peters*; who may be said to have acted with uniformity to a Principle; when such men must be destitute of all colour for their Actions, and indeed of Common Sense: unless they can think to bring back *King James* without *French* Forces; or to restrain those Insolences, which the *French* Faction would give them the opportunity to commit. Should they think to supplant this Government, and set up an other, without such help, the vanity and madness were past cure, or pity; nor, considering the power of *France*, and how little vertue is left in those who should take care for the Nation; can *Englishmen* see any anchor for their hopes and expectations of Good to the Publick, but in *King WILLIAM*. C 2 I

Is there any man who, tho' he set out well, is weary of the race of Glory; not finding the Reward due to his Merit; or not enough to satisfy a boundless ambition? let him consider how many, like the *Philegian Brethren* of old, contentedly suffered themselves to be buried alive, to maintain the boundaries of their Country: and that Perseverance in a Good Cause gives a Pleasure equal to the greatest Rewards; and and is more honourable than the highest promotion.

Let him not envy those men whose rise has been a publick calamity; but those *Volunteers* in the Cause of God, their King, and Country, whom constancy, and the general Voice, advance to the notice of their Prince. Can it be thought that when he comes, to know what men have adhered to their Countries Cause in the worst of Times, and what men served for the sake of that, with the hazard of their Lives and Fortunes; that this great mind will leave it in the power of some few to keep such men down, by their misrepresentations? when he knows, that these might have been as great as their Expectations, or Desires, if they would have joyned with the Enemies to the *English Liberties*; and who can believe, that he who refused to invade the Liberties of *Holland*, when France and Eng

David tempted him with a Crown, and a *carte blanche*; will not reward such virtue where ever he finds it.

Courage is, if not the Source, at least the sign of all other virtues, in Princes especially: nor can a Nation ever apprehend an Invasion of their Liberties, but from pusillanimous Princes; whose fears make them grasp at false securities, instead of what they might be certain of; in the prosperity and affection of their Subjects: they who read the History of this Kingdom, and mark the Characters of those Princes who have been encompassed with Armies of Mercenaries at home, and them who have headed the *English* abroad; may be satisfied, that Examples to warrant this Observation need not be fetch'd from foreign Countries.

And as we have reason to believe, that our King can desire nothing more than the good of his People; we ought, as we love our Country, every one according to his station and Capacity, to contribute our Endeavours, that *England* may not be wanting to itself, or in gratitude to him: and, indeed, it must be said, it has had so few good Princes, that it has always, till now, acted as in a transport upon the very expectation of such an one; nor need we go farther back for an instance than to the beginning of the last Reign.

Certain it is, our King has no quarrel to re-
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venge upon his People; and has manifested that disposition to unite all Parties, and Interests, against the Common Enemy; which if *King James* had in the least inclined to, all the Blood and Treasure which has been spent in this necessary War, would have been spar'd; and Christendom might have enjoyed that settled Peace, which can be expected from nothing, under *God*, but *King WILLIAM's* Arms.

Let it never be said, that we have neglected an opportunity, for the use of which late posterity will praise; as, otherwise, they will curse us, for transmitting *French Slavery* to them.

Whoever will come into the Standard, perhaps the last that will be set up against *France*, is to be embraced as a Friend to *England*. But many, it must be confess'd, ought to go through a state of trial, before they be receiv'd into any place of Trust: The most gentle, the most safe (*like the Military Sacrament among the Romans*) must needs be an Oath of *Fidelity* to Their *present Majesties*: not an Oath, which either can bear a doubtful Interpretation, or, at least, has been interpreted into air, by Men who seem to think, that as long as they do not in words acknowledge the Right of Their *present Majesties*, there can be no Perjury by Implication. But such an Oath as may rise in judgment, even in this World,

World, against every body who shall act any thing against the Right of *Their Majesties*: An Oath, which will leave no Loop-hole; and by which, as by the Word to an Army, we may know who and who are together.

It will never be well, till the generality are engaged to be for the Government in all events. Some, for certain, there are, who have made themselves desperate in this Cause; and, as they never thought of making peace with the other side, are incapable of pardon. They abhor a double Game, and leave it to others, to be Heads of a Party which is against the Government, and to support its Enemies, under colour of getting into their Secrets, or bringing them over from their Principle, or Faction. They give Men Characters according as they find their affections to the Publick, whatever their Carriage has been towards them: nor have they Friend or Enemy; but as they are for, or against, their Country: The love of which, as *Cicero* well says, is above all other Loves.

They who would be *Trimmers* in this Cause, make it evident, they are for having the ship of State sink all at once: *King William's*, and our Countries side, can never have too much weight against *France* and *Rome*. Nor, how much soever some talk for the
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English Monarchy, can they reasonably expect to see it flourish, but under King *William*; or till His Wildom, and his Arms, have left it secur'd to us?

I know it is difficult to make men wise, when the Wit and Mony of *France* raise so much Art to impose upon them: Yet this would be lost upon the generality of *Englishmen*, if all disguises were thrown off; and they who are for *France*, or King *James*, would speak out. That well meaning Men may no longer be cheated by their false appearances; it may be convenient to pull off their Masks, and borrowed Faces.

1. They are very copious upon the stream of Taxes, and the exporting Mony to our Armies abroad, or to assist any of the *Confederates*; but chiefly upon the payment to the States of *Holland*, for their Charges in the late Expedition. They would have it believ'd, that *France* would bring in a shorter Reckoning; and would rather have the Nation, like *Constantinople*, keep its Riches for a Prey to the Enemy, than to give part to keep them out.

2. They to the prejudice of Thier Majesties, their Crown and Dignity, advance Subjects to be Heads of the Church of *England*. When a Man has once receiv'd that Unction, his Person is become sacred, and to suggest that such an one is a *treacherous* is matter

matter of excommunication. But who can, with patience hear it said ; in such a Man the Government loses or disoblige a *whole Party* ? When, if the *Party* be for the Government, they will esteem no man longer than he can be thought true to it : If they be against it, kindness to any of them will but embolden the rest, and give them opportunities for mischief. Who, when his House is beset with Thieves, finding some of them lurking within, instead of going to master them, will think to tempt them to his defence, against their accomplices ? They are too far engag'd with one another, to dare to be honest till their whole gang is ; nor can they be reclaim'd by gentle usage.

3. They have their known *Cant* and *Shiboleth*, to distinguish their *Party* from all others : (the Church) and (the King) are the words given among them, to unite *Papist*, and *High-Church*, *Jacobite*, and *Loyalists*.

And they have a certain Anagram, which joins *Lewis* and *James* ; but always preferring their old Master of *France*, witness the Health (*L I M P*)

And well knowing, that *England*, as the Great Duke of *Rohan* has rightly observ'd, cannot be destroyed but by it self, and its own inbred Diseases ; they make and foment distemper'd Heats among us ;

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while they divide *Protestants* into different Clans and Interests ; and while they make many Parties of them who should be but one , or two at the most , they seem to wish us *Jerusalem's* Fate : But when the Enemy has a party within our Gates ; they who would be of no Party , at least are not against the destruction of their Country.

4. They magnify the power of *France*, and the advantage of its way of Government to make War, or command Peace ; and mightily lessen , and reproach the *Confederates* ; and that chiefly under a popular Mask of Zeal against Leagues with Popish Princes : which they, Good men ! are so far from , that they are for submitting to the worst of them without terms.

5. They insinuate, as if *England* bears the Charge of a needless War, to maintain the Dominion of a foreign Prince, not considering that the *Dutch* alone have in their pay 106540 Men, besides their allowing 25000 *Gilders* a Month towards carrying on the War in *Piedmont* : and are so far from being discouraged by the late Misfortunes, from a vigorous prosecution of the War, that they have added 15000 to their former Land-Forces ; besides encreasing their Navy.

And it's a known Maxim , that the preservation of *Flanders* is more for the interest of *England*, than of *Spain*.

Spain. If *Flanders* be an accession to *France*, *Holland* must soon follow, and *England* next. They are like *Nine-Pins* the throwing down one carries the rest.

The importance of *Flanders* is sufficiently confess'd by these Gentlemen, when they would have others believe there is a necessity of our truckling to *France* upon the taking a Town or two there; and yet they are for giving it all up: but any man who has seen the noble Towns, and large Country yet remaining, would think it very well worth the preserving. *Antwerp* it self, if it were in the *French* Hands, would command the Trade of Christendom.

6. They are very inveſtive against *French* Protestants among us, as promoting Schism, eating the Bread out of our Mouths, and being Spies for *France*: as if they wish'd them their persecution again.

7. The *Dutch* they would render more dangerous than either of the *Turks*; because of the strength of their Shipping, and their Rivalship with us in Trade; not considering, how they themselves have helpt to raise *France* to be a match for us and *Holland*; and, how likely it is, by the dividing either from the other to swallow both: yet, by open ill usage, or a treacherous and fatal friendship, they would drive the *Dutch* to take part against us.

8. They represent it dangerous to arm the *Protestants* in *England*, out of a pretended fear of a *Commonwealth*; and in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, for fear the *Church* should be over-run with *Protestants* of all sorts; holding the *French Power* and *Popery*, to be more remote dangers, or more tolerable evils.

9. They beyond measure magnify that Service the *Dissenting Bishops* did themselves, in appearing for *England* in their own defence; and improve that Surprise and Transport which the Nation was in, to see them once in their Lives *Protestants*, and *Englishmen*, without marks of distinction; into an awing the Government with an imaginary reputation; the very ground of which fail'd, as soon as they fell off from the common Cause. Nor must they think it an easy thing to dispose this Nation to turn out a *Protestant King*; because they followed those Leaders, as they would any others, against *Popery*. God be thanked, we have a Prince who will not quit His possession without bloody Shirts.

They may have vanity enough to fancy, that they made this Revolution; when they were no more than Flies upon the wheel, which the Sufferings of *Lord Russell*, and others, first set a going. Their commitment to the *Tower*, was but the last drop with which the Vessel ran over.

Yet

Yet if we reflect upon the Shares some of them had in laying or holding on, that burden, which the Nation was eager to throw off; we may own, that they contributed to the *Revolution*, as Storms and Tempests do to clearing the Sky for fair Weather.

These, with a few hot headed *Laymen*, who have always us'd the Church for a *Sanctuary* and *Asylum*; set up for a Church by themselves, divided from the Body of the *English Clergy*, as well as *Layty*; and standing between the Church of *England*, and the Church of *Rome*.

Since there is no hopes of the *Cassandrian* way, for *Rome* to come to them; none is left but the *Laudæan*, for them to advance towards *Rome*. And, indeed, it was very visible, that they were doing drudgery for the *Papists*, in former Reigns; while they were labouring to keep the *Church of England* upon a bottom, which they neither design'd for National, or a means of uniting with *Protestants* of other Countries.

Can their Reputations weigh in *England*, against a Government founded in common *Protestantism*? or against the Reputations of those their Successors, whose Piety, Learning and Moderation, as they kept them from the highest Stations in the *Church*, against the general Voice; at last promoted them with the Applause of all, who wish well to *England*.

And

And though our *Archbishop* wants the advantage of an education at *Rome* (which it seems the other has not had to no purpose) the greatest *Bigots* of the *new Sect* cannot imagine him short of *their Head*, in any real Ornament, or Qualification.

10. They, tho masters of no virtue, are so far from esteeming what the greatest Enemies abroad admire in our *King*, that they have the *insolence* to speak unmannerly of his Person; when they owe it to His Clemency, that they are not chastised for it by the Fury of the People.

11. They vilely insinuate, as if *His Majesty* were no Friend to the *English Nation*: which no man can do, without greatly undervaluing both *Prince*, and *People*. If indeed, the most were like themselves, or what they represent them; he would be under an unwelcome necessity, of living as in a Country of Enemies, who would not have him Reign over them. But, certainly none but they who are obstinately resolv'd against loving him, can apprehend the hatred of a *Prince*, whose goodness surprizes his greatest Enemies: tho the Coals of Fire, which it heaps upon their heads, do not melt them into any sense of gratitude, or shame.

What follows? but that all true *Englishmen*, standing upon their Guard against these *Wolves in Sheeps cloathing*; and against all, who may at least be suspected

pected of private ends; second the Intentions and Endeavours of a *Prince*, who cannot possibly be thought to have any aim, or interest, but for the good of this Nation, and Mankind in general.

Let us not fear the Power of *France*; like infectious Diseases, it will come with a fear, which debilitates, and disables from resistance.

Hannibal at the Gates, as it was us'd to frighten the Children of *Rome*; to the Men was a Call, and Incitement, to take care of the Publick Safety. Not to have despair'd of the *Common-wealth*, when its Fortune seem'd most desperate, was as happy to them, as it was glorious. 3

And should the issue of opposing *France* be as dismal, as the most timorous, or most designing, pretend to foretell; it were better, that the last day of our being a free People, should overtake us doing our duty, and struggling against our Chains, than helping to put them on. And in truth, hardly any thing in this life can be a real affliction, till men begin to sink under the sense of having brought it upon themselves. ✓

Those Protestants, who hope to plead the merit of voluntary submissions and services to *France*; would do well to consider, how it has been with those of
the

the Religion there, who enabled their King so to use them.

And those miserable Towns and Cities, which thought, by delivering up their Keys to secure their Houses, Estates, and Liberties ; stand as so many fir'd Beacons, to stir up all Nations against them.

As the Power of *France* may be thought a punishment upon our accessions to it formerly, and present divisions ; when we repent of the past, and mend the present cause of that Calamity ; we may well think the Rod will be broken. Nor will *France* longer be a scourge, than we deserve it.

It is, doubtless, in our Power to remove the moral, and judicial Cause, of our Fears : nor can we think that all those Ravages, Persecutions, Perfidies, and Contempts of God and Man ; shall long go without some remarkable Punishment. However, Humane Greatness has its Limits and Periods ; and *France* seems to have seen its best days.

If we use the means to humble it, by uniting, and exerting, our strength ; when once we come to grapple with it, and give it one powerful shock ; like a great Machine screw'd up to the height, it will never leave turning, till it comes to the bottom.

In which happy day we shall no longer be troubled with the scruples of the *noisie few*, that hold off from this Government; or the distinctions of *the many*, who soon settled the point, of accepting Preferments; but are yet to seek of Salvos to the Reputation of a *Party*; which must change their Principles, and cease to be a *known Party*, to come to those Grounds, upon which the Nation received their *present Majesties* for *King and Queen*; and that of *Right*.

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